

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

1. (Currently amended) A connecting apparatus, comprising:

a cable for electrically connecting an apparatus main body section to a rotatable section ~~rotatably~~ supported by a hinge member ~~with respect to said apparatus main body section~~,  
wherein:

the cable is provided ~~in~~ parallel to a rotation axis of the hinge member so as to be held by the apparatus main body section and the rotatable section, respectively, and

the cable ~~has a half loop shape~~ is arranged to have a U shape curved section, which curved section extends beyond a periphery of the apparatus main body section when the rotatable section is in a closed position, and wherein the cable maintains the U shape regardless of the position of the apparatus main body section with respect to the rotatable section during normal use.

2. (Currently amended) The connecting apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

the cable is held by the apparatus main body section and the rotatable section, via holding sections, respectively,

each of the holding sections includes a supporting member having a curvature, and the cable is held supported by the supporting members ~~to such an extent~~ so that frictional force occurs between the cable and the supporting members.

3. (Currently amended) The connecting apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

at least a the holding section which rotates holding the cable to the rotatable section is provided in a vicinity of the rotation axis of the hinge member.

4. (Original) The connecting apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

the cable is a cable bundle of a plurality of insulating coating electric wires, and the cable bundle is covered by a bundling tube.

5. (Currently amended) A connecting apparatus, comprising:

a cable for electrically connecting an apparatus main body section to a rotating section which is provided so as to be rotatable around a rotation axis with respect to the apparatus main body section;

a first holding section, provided in parallel to the rotation axis, which holds the cable in the apparatus main body section; and

a second holding section, provided in parallel to the rotation axis, which holds the cable in the rotating section,

the cable between the first and second holding sections forming a curve section,

wherein at least part of the cable is provided approximately parallel to the rotation axis,

and wherein the cable is arranged to have a U shape curved section, which curved section extends beyond the apparatus main body section when the rotating section is in a closed position, so that the cable maintains the U shape regardless of the position of the apparatus main body section with respect to the rotating section during normal use.

6. (Original) The connecting apparatus as set forth in claim 5, wherein:

the first holding section includes a first supporting member which is provided to cover and support the cable,

the second holding section includes a second supporting member which is provided to cover and support the cable,

the first and second supporting members support the cable so as to cause friction against the cable.

7. (Original) The connecting apparatus as set forth in claim 6, wherein:

each of the first and second supporting members has a two-division structure constituted by halved members.

8. (Original) The connecting apparatus as set forth in claim 6, wherein:

each of the first and second supporting members has such a curvature as to cover an outer surface of the cable.

9. (Original) The connecting apparatus as set forth in claim 5, wherein:

the apparatus main body section includes a first connector to which the cable is connected,

the rotating section includes a second connector to which the cable is connected,

at least one bundling member causes the cable between the first connector and the first holding section to be partially attached to a chassis of the apparatus main body section , and at least one bundling member causes the cable between the second connector and the second holding section to be partially attached to a chassis of the rotating section.

10. (Original) The connecting apparatus as set forth in claim 5, wherein:  
the cable is an electric cable bundle of a plurality of insulating coating electric wires, and  
the electric cable bundle is covered with a bundling tube.

11. (Original) The connecting apparatus as set forth in claim 5, wherein:  
the second holding section of the rotating section is provided in or in a vicinity of the  
rotation axis.

12. (Currently amended) An image scanning apparatus, comprising a connecting  
apparatus,  
said connecting apparatus, comprising:  
a cable for electrically connecting an apparatus main body section to a rotatable section  
rotatably supported by a hinge member ~~with respect to said apparatus main body section~~,  
the cable being provided in parallel to a rotation axis of the hinge member so as to be  
held by the apparatus main body section and the rotatable section, respectively, and  
the cable ~~having a half loop shape~~ is arranged to have a U shape curved section, which  
curved section extends beyond a periphery of the apparatus main body section when the rotatable  
section is in a closed position, so that the cable maintains the U shape regardless of the position  
of the apparatus main body section with respect to the rotatable section during normal use.

13. (Currently amended) An image scanning apparatus, comprising:  
a connecting apparatus,

said connecting apparatus, comprising:

a cable for electrically connecting an apparatus main body section to a rotating section which is provided so as to be rotatable around a rotation axis with respect to the apparatus main body section;

a first holding section, provided in parallel to the rotation axis, which holds the cable in the apparatus main body section; and

a second holding section, provided in parallel to the rotation axis, which holds the cable in the rotating section,

the cable between the first and second holding sections forming a curve section,

wherein at least part of the cable is provided approximately parallel to the rotation axis,  
and wherein the cable is arranged to have a U shape curved section, which curved section  
extends beyond the apparatus main body section when the rotating section is in a closed position,  
so that the cable maintains the U shape regardless of the position of the apparatus main body  
section with respect to the rotating section during normal use.

14. (Original) The image scanning apparatus as set forth in claim 13, wherein:

the connecting apparatus connects an optical scanning section serving as the apparatus main body section to a sheet feeding apparatus serving as the rotating section.

15. (Currently amended) An image forming system, comprising an image scanning apparatus comprising a connecting apparatus,

said connecting apparatus [[,] comprising:

a cable for electrically connecting an apparatus main body section to a rotatable section rotatably supported by a hinge member ~~with respect to said apparatus main body section~~, the cable being provided at least partially in parallel to a rotation axis of the hinge member so as to be held by the apparatus main body section and the rotatable section, respectively, and

the cable having a half loop shape is arranged to have a U shape curved section, which curved section extends beyond a periphery of the apparatus main body section when the rotatable section is in a closed position, so that the cable maintains the U shape regardless of the position of the apparatus main body section with respect to the rotatable section during normal use.

16. (Currently amended) An image forming system comprising an image scanning apparatus including a connecting apparatus, said connecting apparatus comprising:  
a cable for electrically connecting an apparatus main body section to a rotating section which is provided so as to be rotatable around a rotation axis with respect to the apparatus main body section;  
a first holding section, provided in parallel to the rotation axis, which holds the cable in the apparatus main body section; and  
a second holding section, provided in parallel to the rotation axis, which holds the cable in the rotating section,  
the cable between the first and second holding sections forming a curve section, wherein at least part of the cable is provided approximately parallel to the rotation axis, and wherein the cable is arranged to have a U shape curved section, which curved section

extends beyond the apparatus main body section when the rotating section is in a closed position,  
so that the cable maintains the U shape regardless of the position of the apparatus main body  
section with respect to the rotating section during normal use.

17. (New) The connecting apparatus of claim 2, wherein the supporting members are provided on an inner surface thereof with a rib section.

18. (New) The connecting apparatus of claim 17, wherein the rib section allows frictional force to occur between the cable and the supporting members.

19. (New) The connecting apparatus of claim 17, wherein the surface of the rib section has a curvature.